

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

**Employ Older Workers Week in Los Angeles County**

The United States is witnessing a dramatic growth in the number of citizens 55 years of age or older, a trend that will continue through the 21<sup>st</sup> century. As the population ages, older Americans will play an increasingly important role in the economy and America's leadership in the world marketplace. Older Americans are living longer. They are more active, healthy, and independent than ever before and unprecedented numbers are continuing to thrive in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century workplace. According to a U.S. Bureau of Labor report, one in five (20 percent) of all U.S. workers will be 55 years of age or older by 2015.

Employ Older Workers Week recognizes the vital role of older workers in the workplace. Older workers are a dedicated and experienced core of the workforce. Their contributions to the nation as paid workers and volunteers in both the private and public sectors are immeasurable. The Committee on Economic Development indicates that employers rate older workers high on characteristics such as judgment, commitment to

-MORE-

MOTION

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2013  
PAGE 2**

quality, attendance, and punctuality. Employ Older Workers Week aims to increase awareness of this segment of the labor force and develop innovative strategies to tap into it. This year, Employ Older Workers Week is September 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup>. It is held annually in the last full week of September.

**I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Declare the week of September 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013 as Employ Older Workers Week in Los Angeles County and encourage employers throughout Los Angeles County to actively embrace older workers through recruitment and hiring.

**####**